

National Park Service
Northeast Temperate Network
Technical Steering Committee Members
2003

Brian Underwood, USGS, SUNY Syracuse, Wildlife Biologist

Sam Droege, USGS Patuxent, Monitoring Program Developer

David Manski, Acadia National Park, Chief Natural Resource Manager

Brooke Childrey, Acadia National Park, Chief Curator

David Hayes, Roosevelt-Vanderbilt NHS, Natural Resource Specialist

Christopher Eagar, USFS, Forest Ecosystem Ecologist

Charles Roman, NPS Estuarine/Wetland Ecologist

Wayne Millington, NPS, Invasive Plants

Mary Foley, NPS Regional Science Director

Tonnie Maniero, NPS, Air Quality

Beth Johnson, NPS, Regional I&M Coordinator

Fred Dieffenbach, NPS, NETN Data Manager

Greg Shriver, NPS, NETN Coordinator

Roles of the Northeast Temperate Network Technical Steering Committee

The National Park Service, through the Natural Resource Challenge, has established a Vital Signs monitoring program within 32 networks of parks across the nation. Each Network is staffed with a Coordinator and a data manager and must build partnerships and solicit assistance from experts to develop a monitoring program that will provide information to better manage and maintain natural resources within parks. To this end, Networks are advised to establish a Technical Steering Committee, comprised of experts in many disciplines, which will assist in the development of the Networks' Vital Signs Monitoring Program.

The National Park Services Vital Signs Monitoring program requires a front-end investment in planning and design to ensure that the implementation of the monitoring program will meet the most critical needs of each park and provide scientifically credible data that are available to managers in a timely fashion. The planning and design phase of program development emphasizes incorporating and building upon existing information of park ecosystems and regional monitoring programs to make maximum use of leveraging and partnerships with other agencies, NGO's, and academia. All networks must receive peer review during and after the development of the monitoring program to clearly document how decisions were made in identifying indicators for natural resource monitoring before the detailed design and protocol development is completed.

The Northeast Temperate Network Technical Steering Committee will provide subject matter expertise and technical assistance to the Network in the development of a long-term monitoring program. Members will be asked to;

- participate in scoping workshops designed to synthesize information on specific components (i.e. forest monitoring, invasive species, habitat fragmentation) of the Vital Signs Monitoring program.
- provide information to the Network Coordinator to assist in the development of the monitoring program.
- review and solicit outside reviews of Network proposal and projects.
- make recommendations about potential Network partners, prioritizing Network projects, and the development of monitoring protocols.
- coordinate peer review of products and protocols.
- review the Annual Administrative Report and Work Plan.
- provide guidance on integrating I&M program results with outreach and education programs.

To maintain consistency in monitoring program development, committee members will be asked to participate for the duration of the development and review of the NETN monitoring program (approximately 2006) at which time new members may be nominated and selected. Throughout the existence of the Technical Steering Committee, at least 2 National Park Resource managers will hold seats on the committee. These seats will rotate through the park properties within the Network to provide an opportunity for all parks to participate on the technical steering committee. Communication among committee members and the Network Coordinator will be primarily through conference calls and emails, with meetings called as necessary.